

# Audubon National Wildlife Refuge

Calendar of Events 2015

### Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest

Participate in an educational program that teaches wetland and waterfowl conservation to youth. Students in grades K-12 learn about waterfowl and create artwork as an individual project at home, or in their classroom. Participants must submit their entry to Audubon Refuge by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Artwork is judged later in March, with a banquet honoring all 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in the spring. To learn more about the Junior Duck Stamp Program or to get contest guidelines and an entry form, visit http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck



### **Nature Fest Workshop**

Pine Needle Basket Making: 9am-4pm Cost: \$50 Class Limit: 10
Carve A Diamond Willow Walking Stick: 9am-12pm Cost: \$25 Class Limit: 10
Paint Duck or Goose Silhouettes: 9am-12pm Cost: \$25 Class Limit: 10
Nature Hike and Survival Skills: 1pm-2pm Cost: \$0

**Date:** Saturday, April 18, 2015 **Age:** 15 years-adult **Pre-registration is required** by calling 701/442-5474 ext.117. **Meet in Visitor Center** (Workshop is sponsored by Audubon Refuge Partners, Inc. All proceeds go toward refuge conservation education programs.)

### **South Shore Tram Tour**

Enjoy a tram ride on the South Shore Auto Tour Route for an up-close and interactive view of the refuge. Participants will learn about the refuge and wildlife encountered along the way. Dress for the weather.

Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 Time: 10-11:30AM Age: Any
Pre-registration is required by calling 701/442-5474 ext. 117. Tour limit: 28

Meet at visitor center



### **Kayaking Adventures**

Enjoy a relaxing morning in a kayak, while paddling on a beautiful bay of Lake Audubon. Kayaks, paddles, and life jackets are provided. Kayaking will be cancelled if winds exceed 18 mph. Wear shoes and clothing that can get wet.

**Date**: Wednesdays, July 8 and July 22 **Time**: 9-11am **Age**: 10 and above (youth must be accompanied by an adult) **Pre-registration is required** by calling 701/442- 5474 ext. 117 **Meet at visitor parking area at end of auto tour route** 

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### **Blue Goose Day**

Spend a family-oriented evening with hands-on opportunities to participate in outdoor skill building and wildlife conservation programs. Youth will have the opportunity to shoot air rifles, bows and arrows, and build a nesting box. Following the event, a picnic lunch will be served. All kids receive participation prizes and educational materials.



No pre-registration required Date: Thursday, July 16, 2015 Time: 5-8:30pm Age: Any Meet at Visitor Center



### **Halloween Adventure**

Families are invited to dress in costumes and join a Refuge Halloween Adventure. (Come and go – open house style) Participants will be treated to trick-or-treating on the nature trail, a light snack, and a Halloween tram ride along the scenic shoreline of Lake Audubon. Tram rides are scheduled for 5:45pm, 6:30pm, and 7:15pm.

No pre-registration required Date: Saturday, October 17, 2015 Time: 5:30-8pm

Meet in Visitor Center

### **Upland Bird Hunt Opening Day**

A long-standing tradition brings avid hunters to seek out pheasants, grouse, and partridge on Audubon Refuge. Opening day of this late season hunt is November 23<sup>rd</sup> and the Audubon Refuge Partners Volunteers will serve brunch in the visitor center for a small fee. Proceeds will be used for educational programs for youth and adults.



**Date:** Monday, November 23, 2015 **Time:** 9am – 1pm **Meet in Visitor Center** 

Events are free of charge with the exception of the Nature Fest Workshop and the Upland Bird Hunt Opening Day Brunch.

The office and visitor center is located 3 miles north of Coleharbor, ND on U.S. Highway 83 and 1 mile east, and is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 4:30pm year round, except Federal holidays.

Audubon NWR Complex

3275 11<sup>th</sup> St. NW

Coleharbor, ND 58531

Phone: 701/442-5474

Email: Audubon@fws.gov

Website: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/audubon





#### **Visitor Opportunities**

<u>Audubon Refuge Visitor Center</u> – An ideal place to begin your visit - an exhibit hall features displays about wetland and grassland habitat, migratory birds, nocturnal wildlife, John James Audubon, and Refuge history. The visitor center is open from 8:00am – 4:30pm, Monday – Friday, except Federal holidays.

<u>Prairie Pond Store</u> – Enhance your visit with wildlife and habitat educational materials or souvenirs of Audubon National Wildlife Refuge. The store is managed and operated by Audubon Refuge Partners, Inc., a group of volunteers who assist with refuge programs and activities.

**Prairie Hiking Trail** - A 1-mile self-guided trail begins on the north side of the visitor center. The trail winds through grasslands and along wetlands, allowing visitors to observe many species of native grasses and wildflowers, birds, and other animals. A wildlife checklist is available for reference.

**South Shore Auto Tour Route** – The 8 ½ -mile gravel tour route begins near the visitor center and winds along the scenic south shoreline of Lake Audubon. Highlights include views of the lake, prairie wetlands, grasslands, and a chance to observe many species of birds, mammals, and plants. Visitors are welcome to leave their vehicle and stroll through the prairie or along the wind-blown shoreline of Lake Audubon. A brochure corresponds with numbered signs along the auto tour route.

<u>Wildlife Observation and Photography Blind</u> – Enjoy peaceful moments observing or photographing waterfowl and shorebirds on a quiet bay of Lake Audubon. A westerly view from the blind offers a glimpse of a beautiful sunset over Lake Audubon.

<u>Outdoor Skill Loaner Programs</u> – Families are invited to borrow equipment to enhance their refuge experience. 'Let's Go Outside Backpacks' are available to use along the nature trail or at a wetland – they contain magnifying bug jars, nets for catching insects, field guides for identifying critters, and much more! Snowshoes can be borrowed during the winter months to explore areas full of wildlife sign and snow. Equipment can be utilized during office hours.

**<u>Volunteering</u>** – Consider joining and/or making a donation to the 'Audubon Refuge Partners, Inc.' group of volunteers, who assist with providing wildlife-oriented environmental education, interpretation, and recreational experiences for people.

**<u>Hunting</u>** - Deer hunting and a late season upland bird (pheasant, grouse, and partridge) hunt are held on the refuge. A brochure that details special regulations is available.

**<u>Ice Fishing</u>** - Ice fishing is permitted when ice covers the water. A brochure that details special regulations is available.

The office and visitor center is located 3 miles north of Coleharbor, ND on Highway 83 and 1 mile east.

Audubon NWR Phone: 701/442-5474 Fax: 701/442-5546

3275 11<sup>th</sup> St. NW E-mail: <u>audubon@fws.gov</u>

Coleharbor, ND 58531 Website: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/refuge/audubon">http://www.fws.gov/refuge/audubon</a>